

# ECONOMIC CONDITIONS in New Hampshire



**June 2006**

Volume 106, Number 06

**April to April  
Over-the-year  
Total Employment  
Growth.....7**

**Local Area  
Unemployment  
Statistics .....8**

**Current  
Employment  
Statistics .....9**

**For Additional  
Information .....12**

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**New Hampshire  
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## Summer Employment

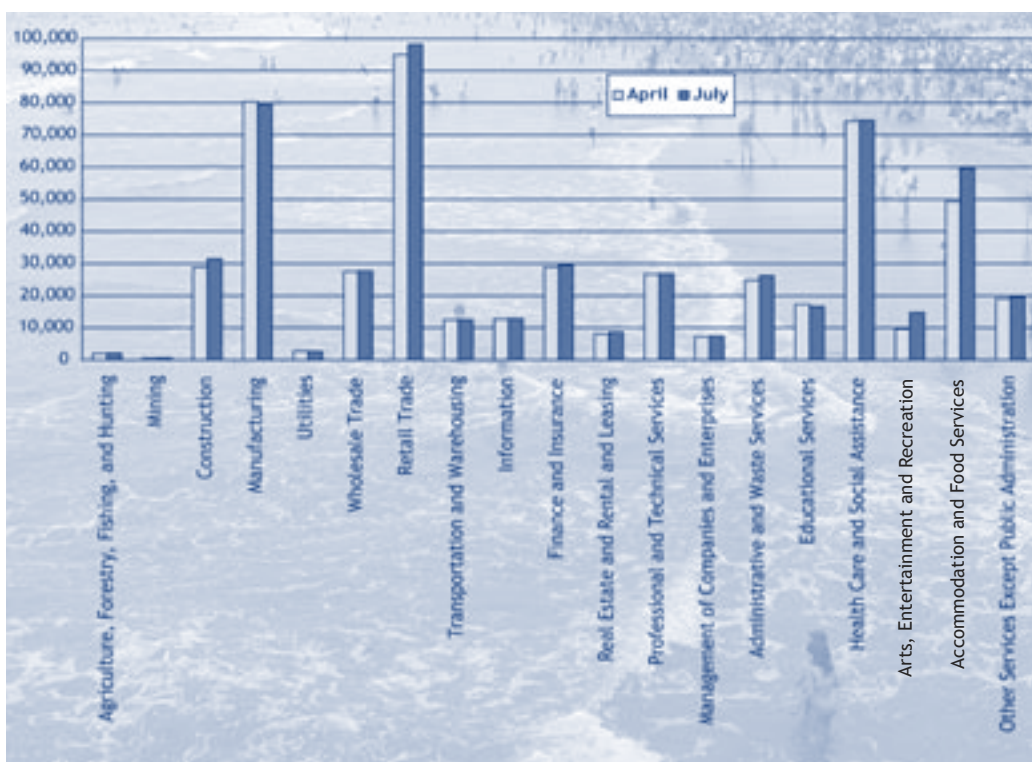
**Using covered employment to find where summer jobs are**

**W**arm weather brings the opening of seasonal New Hampshire businesses like amusement parks, speedways, outdoor entertainment venues, and theme parks. The closing of public schools in June marks the beginning of the summer family vacation season, further intensifying related tourism activity. The swelling in the state's private employment from April to July last year was large enough to absorb the temporary declines in government

employment caused by schools letting out, to net an additional 5,200 jobs.

Since no Bureau of Labor Statistics survey directly tracks summer hiring, increases attributable to summer employment are typically measured by comparing April employment to July employment. Analysis of these increases using detailed covered jobs data by industry can be used to anticipate where seasonal jobs can be found this summer.

**Over 15,000 of the added jobs came from the Leisure and Hospitality industries, from April to July 2005**



The Leisure and hospitality industries (Accommodation and food services, and Arts, entertainment, and recreation) combined to add 15,000 jobs in summer 2005. By July, waterside seasonal restaurants and lodging places open for summer business. The largest job increase, in 2005, from April to July, in both percentage and net job growth, was in the Accommodation and food services sector (20.8 percent increase with 10,277 more jobs). Within this industry sector, the employment increase was split almost equally between Accommodation (4,857 jobs) and Food Services and drinking places (5,420 jobs). In the Accommodation subsector, Traveler accommodation, and RV parks and recreational camps furnished all but 12 of the added jobs. Over half of the additional jobs in the Food services and drinking places subsector were in Full-service restaurants, while job increases in Limited-service restaurants provided just over one third of the gain.

Another testament to the importance of the summer season to New Hampshire's economy was the job surge in the other Leisure and hospitality industry, the Arts, entertainment, and recreation sector, with a 52.4 percent increase from April to July, providing 5,071 seasonal jobs. The Amusement, gambling, and recreation industries include the amusement and theme parks whose prime season is the summer, providing 3,454 of those jobs in July over the April count. The 2005 data also reflects the recent rise in Spectator sports as the catalyst for the overall growth of 1,320 positions in the Performing arts and spectator sports subsector.

Anyone who is accustomed to traveling on New England roadways is well aware that warmer weather ushers in the road and bridge construction season. While building contractors have developed many strategies to continue

### Total employment expanded over 5,100 jobs from April to July

	2005							Percent Change April to July
	1st Quarter			2nd Quarter			Net Change April to July	
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep		
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	1,981	2,098	2,200	2,130	2,120	2,189	149	7.5%
Mining	564	580	597	624	621	619	60	10.6%
Construction	28,834	29,950	30,925	31,464	31,443	30,862	2,630	9.1%
Manufacturing	80,328	80,346	80,839	79,478	80,232	79,722	(850)	-1.1%
Utilities	2,764	2,768	2,762	2,766	2,770	2,759	2	0.1%
Wholesale Trade	27,446	27,582	27,688	27,703	27,509	27,373	257	0.9%
Retail Trade	95,038	96,296	98,104	98,255	98,598	96,893	3,217	3.4%
Transportation and Warehousing	12,497	12,771	13,014	12,522	12,545	13,044	25	0.2%
Information	12,718	12,732	12,771	12,877	12,837	12,636	159	1.3%
Finance and Insurance	28,859	28,971	29,307	29,644	29,692	29,593	785	2.7%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	8,118	8,221	8,530	8,674	8,612	8,291	556	6.8%
Professional and Technical Services	26,668	26,221	26,331	26,818	26,827	26,524	150	0.6%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	7,338	7,384	7,407	7,404	7,404	7,323	66	0.9%
Administrative and Waste Services	24,826	25,366	26,144	26,164	26,371	26,110	1,338	5.4%
Educational Services	17,306	16,840	16,589	16,572	16,392	17,398	(734)	-4.2%
Health Care and Social Assistance	74,292	74,670	74,756	74,558	74,474	75,224	266	0.4%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	9,676	10,583	12,758	14,747	13,624	11,792	5,071	52.4%
Accommodation and Food Services	49,329	51,638	56,234	59,606	59,432	55,173	10,277	20.8%
Other Services Except Public Administration	19,081	19,037	19,274	19,514	19,493	19,136	433	2.3%
Federal Government	7,775	7,774	7,863	7,892	7,917	7,871	117	1.5%
State Government	21,004	20,919	19,967	20,884	20,742	21,114	(120)	-0.6%
Local Government	59,113	59,449	56,922	40,377	40,136	58,293	(18,736)	-31.7%

working through the winter months, road construction stops dead when the ground is frozen. In 2005, ten percent of Construction increases were from roads and highway construction, with scheduled repair work. Added demand for repair work from flood damages incurred both last fall and this spring, promise to make Highway, street and bridge construction a large contributor to summer opportunities this season.

The largest contribution to the 9.1 percent increase and the more than 2,600-job increase in Construction was the 1,674 workers added to Specialty trade contractors between April and July. Much of the activity in this subsector is usually subcontracted from general contractors or operative builders. However, especially in remodeling and repair construction, work also may be done directly for property owners. Specialty trade contractors usually work at the construction site, although they may have shops where they also work.

Spring cleanup with tree trimming and removal services influences employment in Administrative and waste services. The warmer weather brought with it a 5.4 percent increase adding more than 1,300 jobs in this industry sector. About two of every three of these workers were employed in the Services to buildings and dwellings sector. This subdivision within Administrative and waste services includes summer maintenance services that are in high demand, including landscaping, bug and pest control, and swimming pool cleaning services.

Reflecting both trends that rate shopping as a frequent vacation activity and, more directly, the swelling of the area's summertime population in tourist towns, Retail trade grew by 3,217 additional positions from April to July. The increase in Grocery store employment provided over 25 percent

of the added jobs in Retail trade. Both General merchandise stores and Building materials and garden supply stores boosted employment levels by around 20 percent from April to July.

Only two industry sectors experienced declines in employment levels as spring turned into summer. With most students out on break for the summer, private Education employment levels declined by over 700 positions. The influence of school-year employment cycles is even more evident in the public sector. Local government employment dropped by 18,736 jobs from April to July. Even with this huge drop, total employment (Private plus Government) in New Hampshire still grew by more than 5,200 jobs.

Although the manufacturing sector has been experiencing declines, retooling typically is the reason behind the summer shutdowns, accounting for at least part of the 850 lost jobs there.

### Summer Workers by Age Cohort

Overall, the level of the monthly civilian labor force is relatively stable, but when broken out by age groups the labor force estimates can provide some

The 16 to 19 year aged group experiences the largest change in its share of the civilian labor force during the summer months

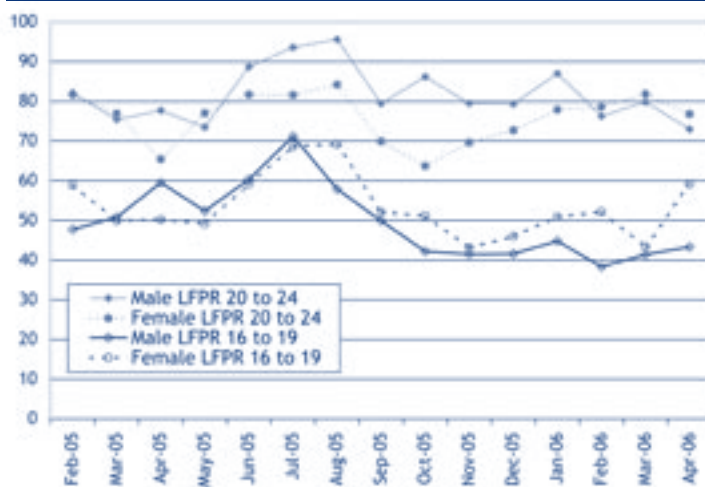




insight as to which cohorts provide seasonal workers.

The two youngest age groups, for both males and females, are most inclined to encounter seasonal employment changes. These age groups experience seasonal increases in their labor force participation rates during the summer months. This is probably because both groups' availability is significantly influenced by school – the age 16 to 19 group by the secondary school schedule

The labor force participation rate for the 20 to 24 age group is typically 25 to 30 percent higher than their younger counterparts.



and the 20 through 24 group, to a lesser degree, by the postsecondary school schedule.

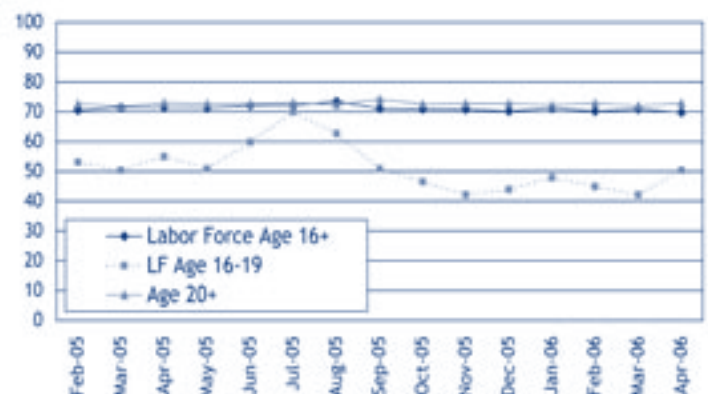
### High School Age

Of the roughly 738 thousand people in New Hampshire's civilian labor force, in 2005, a monthly average of 35 thousand were between the ages of 16 and 19. This age group represented 6.6 percent of the working age population in April 2005 and that increased to 7.6 percent by July 2005.

The population increase between those months of this age bracket can be attributed to students returning home during school break as well as those temporarily moving into the area on summer vacation with their families. This age group makes up about 5.0 percent of the total civilian labor force. The only age group that has a smaller share of the labor force is that consisting of people 65 years and over.

That the majority in this age group are full time secondary school students influences their relatively small share in the labor force. The school year schedule plays a big part in the seasonal availability for employment for this age group. During the summer vacation, the labor force participation rate (from April to July) of this group jumps from its median month (January 2005) of 47.9 percent to 70.0 percent, almost matching the median month (March 2006) of 70.9 percent for the remainder of the labor force. This is an influx of between 10 and 15 thousand young workers into the state's labor force during the summer months, June, July, and August.

During the school break, 16 to 19 year cohort labor force participation rate increases to match the statewide average.



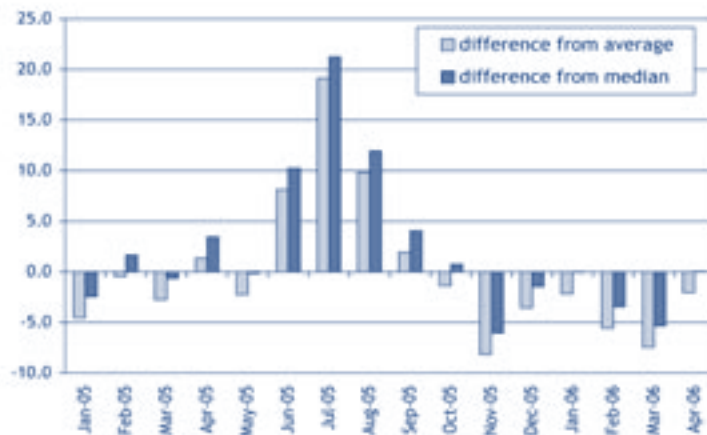
The average size of this cohort in the labor force<sup>2</sup> in any given month is around 36 thousand. Because the levels jump so high in the summer, they skew the average, so the level of the median month (April 2006), 34.2 thousand, makes for a better comparison. During 2005, spring hiring started strong in April, and got scaled back in May – which may have been weather-related. This year's estimates show that although April isn't as high as it was last year, the number of individuals in this age group are starting to enter the workforce for the summer.

When compared to other age cohorts, the 16 to 19 age cohort exhibits a smaller difference in the labor force participation levels between genders. The participation differences seem to depend on the time of year; data for females showed more working in the winter months but males taking the lead in the warmer months. But the variances, overall, are becoming less significant than compared to older groupings.

### Where do they work?

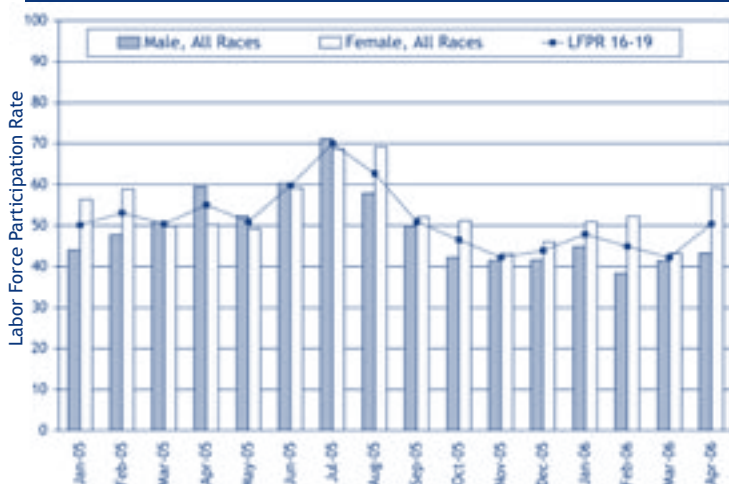
From the earlier discussion of which industries see the most seasonal em-

June, July and August had the largest increases in the labor force in the 16 to 19 year old group.



ployment change, it appears that the Accommodation and food services and the Arts, entertainment and recreation sectors provide jobs to about two-thirds of these workers. The flexibility of Retail trade hours is attractive to many, so this industry probably provides employment to about two of every fifteen of these young workers. Jobs in Retail trade generally require fewer skills and less experience, making high schools students more eligible for work there. Plus, Retail trade can be found throughout the state, and it is the second largest industry sector in terms of employment.

There was a fairly even split between male and female workers in the 16 to 19 age group.



### The 20 to 24 year olds

This age group tends to be more independent than the 16 to 19 age group. The 20 to 24 age group includes postsecondary students as well as young adults who have become full time workforce members. Because of their greater economic needs, to pay tuition or to support themselves for the first time, the monthly labor force participation rate for the 20 to 24 age

group is over 25 percent higher than high schoolers, at 79 percent. The fact that some in the age group 20 to 24 are full time workers, while some are part time because of educational obligations may account for their higher percent in the labor force than the high school aged group.<sup>3</sup>

This independent adult status helps explain why both males and females in this group also have a higher labor force participation rate than the high school aged group. Their median labor force participation rates were 79.7 percent for males and 77.0 per-

cent for females compared to 46.3 and 51.2 for their younger counterparts. A significant difference between this age cohort and their younger counterparts is that this group has distinctly more males working throughout the year than females. This may be related to a higher percent of females engaged in postsecondary education.<sup>4</sup>

*Anita Josten*

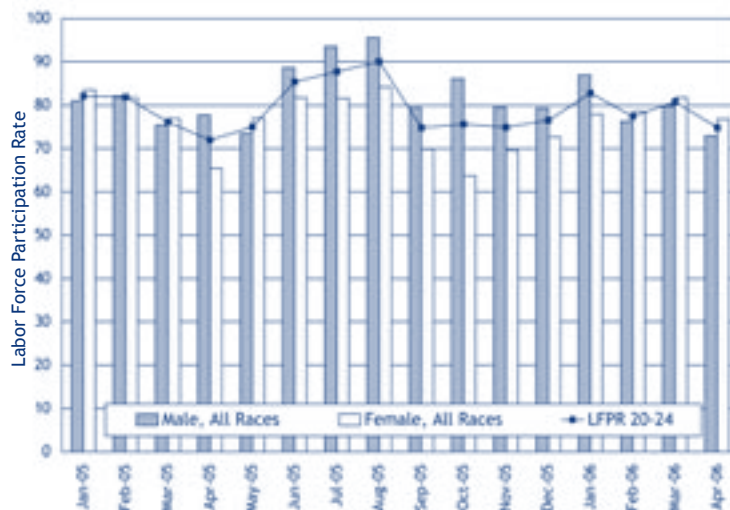
<sup>1</sup> Civilian non-institutional population includes those age 16 and over, excludes members of the armed forces and those institutionalized.

<sup>2</sup> Civilian labor force estimates by age group derived from monthly Current Population Survey, averaged for the 15 month period from January 2005 through April 2006.

<sup>3</sup> The breakout of the 20 to 24 age cohort includes an extra year of population, so comparisons to the 16 to 19 age group must be done with caution.

<sup>4</sup> National Center for Education Statistics, New Hampshire Class of 2004, <http://nces.ed.gov/>

The 20 to 24 age group average share of the labor force almost doubled that of the 16 to 19 age cohort.

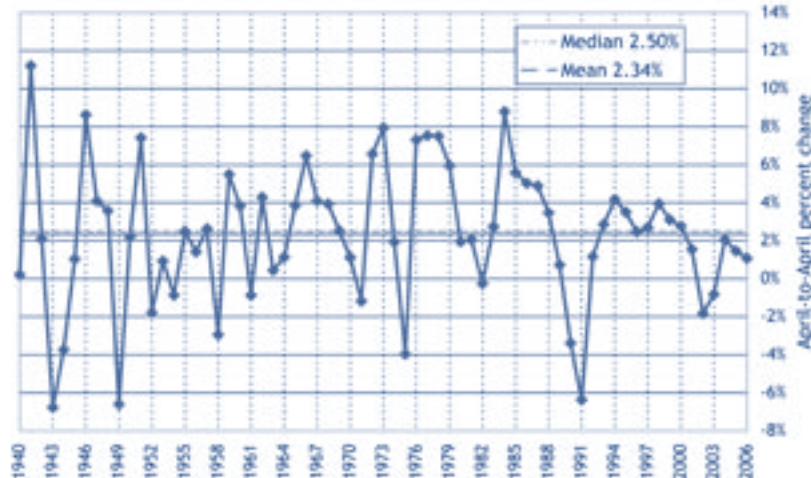


## April to April Over-the-year Total Employment Growth

Current Employment Statistics' (CES) nonfarm figures for April 2006 showed a mere 1.08 percent

gain in New Hampshire's total employment level over April 2005. This was the smallest over-the-year gain since the decline caused by the 2001 recession and the subsequent jobless recovery period. It was the smallest April-to-April gain in the third year of a nonfarm employment rebound since 1964.

### Year to Year Change in April Total New Hampshire Nonfarm Employment



Overall, New Hampshire's total employment has been growing, with the exceptions of recession periods. Employment in April 2006, although growing slower than previous years, was 12,000 higher than the peak of 625,300 before the recession. Post 2001-recession growth rates, April-to-April change, hit a high of 2.05 percent in 2004, and

*Continued on page 12*

## Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity

Total Regular Unemployment Compensation Programs:				Change from Previous			
				Month		Year	
				Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Apr-06	Mar-06	Apr-05					
Initial Claims	3,836	3,599	4,004	237	6.6%	-168	-4.2%
Continued Weeks	27,642	35,494	29,302	-7,852	-22.1%	-1,660	-5.7%

## Unemployment Compensation Fund

Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of April	\$250,418,467.68
Average payment for a week of total unemployment:	\$252.18
Net benefits paid:	\$7,117,905.13
Net contributions received during the month:	\$8,069,583.42
Interest Received:	\$0.00
Reed Act Distribution:	\$0.00
Reed Act Withdrawal for Administrative Costs:	\$0.00

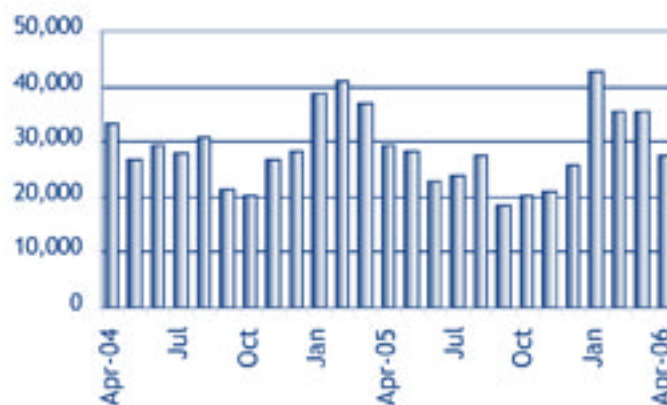
## Claims Activity

## Trust Fund

## Continued Weeks Claimed

Apr 2004 - Apr 2006

Continued weeks claimed followed the typical pattern of falling from March to April as for the last 30 years, with the 5 exceptions 1980, 1986, 1991, 2001, and 2002.



			Change from Previous	
Apr-06	Mar-06	Apr-05	Month	Year
201.5	199.8	194.6	0.9%	3.5%

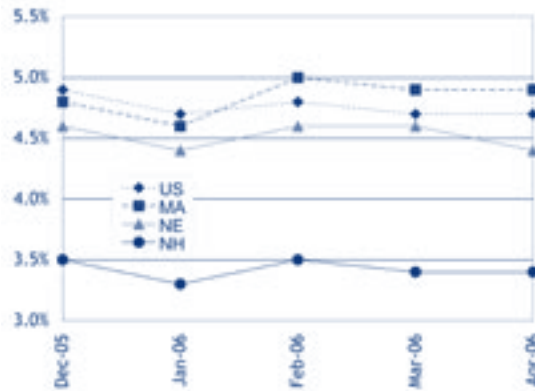
United States  
All Urban Areas (CPI-U)  
(1982-1984=100)

## Consumer Price Index



## N.H and U.S. Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

New Hampshire's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has remained below 4.0 percent for the last 23 months, since June 2004.



## Unemployment Rates by Region

	Apr-06	Mar-06	Apr-05
United States	4.7%	4.7%	5.1%
Northeast	4.8%	4.6%	4.8%
New England	4.4%	4.6%	4.7%
Connecticut	3.9%	4.6%	4.9%
Maine	4.2%	4.1%	4.8%
Massachusetts	4.9%	4.9%	4.8%
New Hampshire	3.4%	3.4%	3.6%
Rhode Island	5.4%	5.1%	5.0%
Vermont	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%
Mid Atlantic	4.9%	4.6%	4.8%
New Jersey	5.1%	4.5%	4.3%
New York	4.9%	4.7%	5.0%
Pennsylvania	4.7%	4.5%	5.0%

## Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Estimates

By Place of Residence

	Dec-05	Jan-06	Feb-06	Mar-06	Apr-06
<b>New Hampshire</b>					
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.3%	3.5%	3.4%	3.4%
Civilian Labor Force	733,942	736,154	735,865	737,350	735,336
Number Employed	708,524	711,511	710,462	712,404	710,658
Number Unemployed	25,418	24,643	25,403	24,946	24,678
<b>United States (in thousands)</b>					
Unemployment Rate	4.9%	4.7%	4.8%	4.7%	4.7%
Civilian Labor Force	150,153	150,114	150,449	150,652	150,811
Number Employed	142,779	143,074	143,257	143,641	143,688
Number Unemployed	7,375	7,040	7,193	7,011	7,123

These 2005 Benchmark Estimates are awaiting final review by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, D.C.

## Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment Estimates

By Place of Establishment

Supersector	Dec-05	Jan-06	Feb-06	revised Mar-06	preliminary Apr-06
Total Nonfarm	636,600	639,400	640,500	641,300	642,500
Construction	30,100	30,000	30,400	30,500	31,300
Manufacturing	78,300	78,100	77,600	77,400	77,200
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	140,600	141,800	141,500	141,800	142,000
Information	12,800	13,000	13,000	12,900	13,000
Financial Activities	39,900	40,200	40,500	40,600	40,700
Professional and Business Services	60,100	60,300	60,500	60,800	61,300
Educational and Health Services	99,200	100,300	100,600	100,600	101,000
Leisure and Hospitality	64,600	65,000	64,700	64,700	64,000
Other Services	21,000	21,100	21,000	21,200	21,100
Government	89,000	88,600	89,700	89,800	89,800

Please note that not all supersectors meet the statistical criteria for publication in this category. We seasonally adjust the total nonfarm data series and all the published supersectors independently. Therefore, the sum of the published parts will not equal the total.



## Labor Force Estimates

New Hampshire	Apr-06	Mar-06	Apr-05
Number of workers			
Total Civilian Labor Force	729,450	733,970	725,740
Employed	704,870	706,710	699,750
Unemployed	24,580	27,260	25,990
Unemployment Rate (percent of labor force)	3.4%	3.7%	3.6%

## Unemployment Rates by Area

	Apr-06	Mar-06	Apr-05
<b>U.S. and Regional States</b>			
United States	4.5%	4.8%	4.9%
Northeast	4.6%	5.0%	4.6%
New England	4.4%	5.0%	4.6%
Connecticut	3.8%	4.8%	4.8%
Maine	4.6%	4.9%	5.2%
Massachusetts	4.7%	5.4%	4.6%
New Hampshire	3.4%	3.7%	3.6%
Rhode Island	5.3%	5.8%	4.8%
Vermont	3.9%	4.0%	3.8%
Mid Atlantic	4.7%	5.0%	4.6%
New Jersey	4.9%	4.8%	4.1%
New York	4.7%	5.0%	4.8%
Pennsylvania	4.4%	5.0%	4.7%

Map			
<b>Key Labor Market Areas</b>	<b>Apr-06</b>	<b>Mar-06</b>	<b>Apr-05</b>
1 Colebrook NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	6.7%	4.4%	8.2%
2 Berlin NH MicroNECTA	4.2%	4.1%	4.8%
3 Littleton NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	4.0%	3.7%	3.6%
4 Haverhill NH LMA	4.2%	4.7%	3.6%
5 Conway NH-ME LMA, NH Portion	4.0%	3.8%	4.0%
6 Plymouth NH LMA	3.1%	3.4%	3.3%
7 Moultonborough NH LMA	2.6%	2.9%	2.7%
8 Lebanon NH-VT MicroNECTA, NH Portion	2.5%	2.4%	2.2%
9 Laconia NH MicroNECTA	3.1%	3.7%	3.4%
10 Wolfeboro NH LMA	3.0%	3.4%	3.1%
11 Franklin NH MicroNECTA	3.5%	4.4%	3.6%
12 Claremont NH MicroNECTA	3.2%	3.1%	3.1%
13 Newport NH LMA	3.1%	3.1%	2.9%
14 New London NH LMA	2.5%	2.6%	2.6%
15 Concord NH MicroNECTA	3.1%	3.4%	3.1%
16 Rochester-Dover NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion	3.0%	3.5%	3.4%
17 Charlestown NH LMA	3.2%	4.0%	3.2%
18 Hillsborough NH LMA	3.7%	3.7%	3.2%
19 Manchester NH MetroNECTA	3.4%	3.8%	3.5%
20 Keene NH MicroNECTA	2.9%	3.2%	3.0%
21 Peterborough NH LMA	3.5%	3.9%	3.4%
22 Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion	3.6%	4.0%	3.9%
23 Exeter Area, NH Portion, Haverhill-N. Andover-Amesbury MA-NH NECTA Division	3.9%	4.4%	4.3%
24 Portsmouth NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion	3.0%	3.4%	3.4%
25 Hinsdale Town, NH Portion, Brattleboro VT-NH LMA	2.2%	2.1%	2.3%
26 Pelham Town, NH Portion, Lowell-Billerica-Chelmsford MA-NH NECTA Division	4.1%	4.7%	5.4%
27 Salem Town, NH Portion, Lawrence-Methuen-Salem MA-NH NECTA Division	4.6%	5.2%	5.2%

These 2005 Benchmark Estimates are awaiting final review by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, D.C.

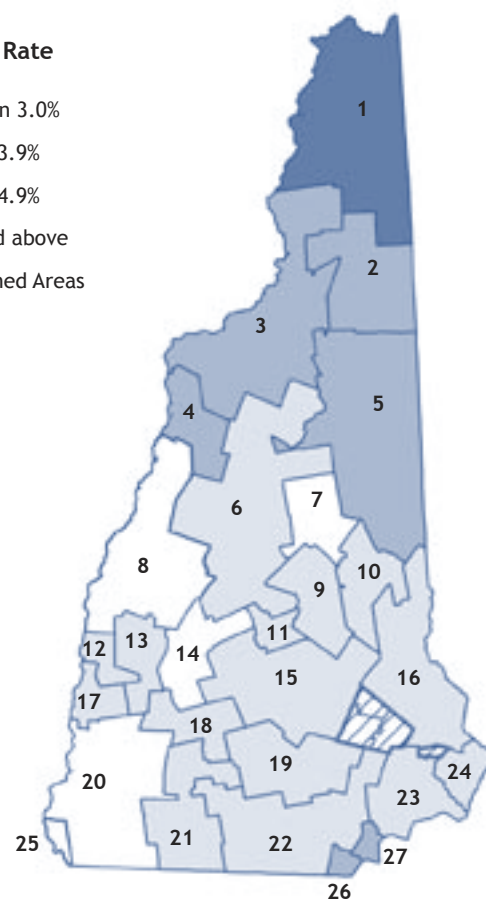
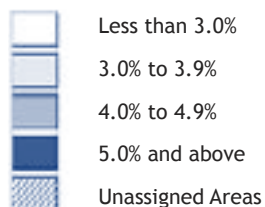
## Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

## Not Seasonally Adjusted

By Place of Residence

Counties	Apr-06	Mar-06	Apr-05
Belknap	3.2%	3.7%	3.3%
Carroll	3.6%	3.6%	3.7%
Cheshire	3.0%	3.3%	3.0%
Coos	4.6%	4.2%	5.1%
Grafton	3.0%	3.1%	2.9%
Hillsborough	3.5%	3.9%	3.8%
Merrimack	3.0%	3.4%	3.0%
Rockingham	3.6%	4.0%	4.0%
Strafford	3.0%	3.4%	3.3%
Sullivan	3.0%	3.1%	2.9%

## April Unemployment Rate



New Hampshire unemployment and labor force estimates are calculated using a regression model which depends on Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates. Labor Market Area estimates are calculated using the Bureau of Labor Statistics "Handbook Method" and then adjusted to the State levels.

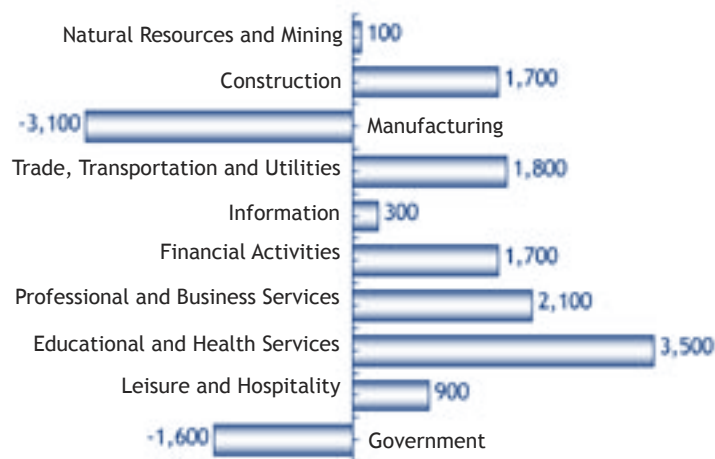
Outdoor activities spurred increases in Construction and Professional and business services, accounting for 4,000 of the 5,600 job growth over-the-month.

## Monthly Not Seasonally Adjusted New Hampshire Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

Current Employment Statistics Employment by Super Sector by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change from previous:	
	Apr-06 preliminary	Mar-06 revised	Apr-05	Month	Year
Total All Super Sectors	637,300	631,700	630,500	5,600	6,800
Private Employment Total	544,800	538,800	536,400	6,000	8,400
Natural Resources and Mining	1,100	1,000	1,000	100	100
Construction	30,500	28,000	28,800	2,500	1,700
Manufacturing	77,200	77,300	80,300	-100	-3,100
Durable Goods	59,300	59,400	61,300	-100	-2,000
Non-Durable Goods	17,900	17,900	19,000	0	-1,100
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	139,500	138,300	137,700	1,200	1,800
Wholesale Trade	27,300	26,800	27,400	500	-100
Retail Trade	97,000	96,300	95,000	700	2,000
Transportation and Utilities	15,200	15,200	15,300	0	-100
Information	13,000	12,800	12,700	200	300
Financial Activities	40,500	40,300	38,800	200	1,700
Professional and Business	60,900	59,400	58,800	1,500	2,100
Educational and Health	101,300	101,000	97,800	300	3,500
Leisure and Hospitality	60,000	59,900	59,100	100	900
Other Services	20,800	20,800	21,400	0	-600
Government Total	92,500	92,900	94,100	-400	-1,600

## Change in Nonfarm Employment

Apr 2005 to Apr 2006



## Monthly Analysis of Current Employment Statistics (CES) Data

For further analysis please read the *Detailed Monthly Analysis of Industry Employment Data* on our Web site at [www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/nonfarm.htm](http://www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/nonfarm.htm)

**Seasonally Adjusted:** April's seasonally adjusted estimates showed that New Hampshire employers added 1,200 new jobs to the state's economy. Construction (supersector 20) led all industries with an 800-job addition. Professional and business services (supersector 60) followed with a 500-job increase. Next came educational and health services (supersector 65) with a 400-job expansion. Trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) bumped its employment totals up by 200. Completing the plus side, information (supersector 50) and financial activities (supersector 55) each employed 100 more workers in April.

Government (supersector 90) total employment in April held at the March level in this data series.

A 700-job reduction by leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) cut into the April gains made by the other industries in the state. Manufacturing (supersector 30) joined in with a 200-job cutback, and other services (supersector 80) trimmed 100 jobs from the rolls to complete April's employment activity for the seasonally adjusted estimates.

**Unadjusted:** For New Hampshire, April represented a change of seasons. Winter activities have concluded, and

## Monthly Unadjusted Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Employment by Sector number of jobs by place of establishment	Manchester NH MetroNECTA			Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion			Portsmouth NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion			Rochester-Dover NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion		
	preliminary Apr-06	Change from previous:		preliminary Apr-06	Change from previous:		preliminary Apr-06	Change from previous:		preliminary Apr-06	Change from previous:	
		Month	Year		Month	Year		Month	Year		Month	Year
Total All Sectors	101,100	1,500	2,100	133,700	1,400	1,000	55,800	800	1,600	56,300	300	1,000
Private Employment Total	89,500	1,500	2,200	118,400	1,300	1,100	46,200	700	1,500	42,600	600	500
Natural Resources and Construction	5,300	200	100	6,300	400	600	1,800	100	100	2,100	100	100
Manufacturing	9,500	0	-100	25,300	-100	-500	3,600	0	-100	6,600	0	0
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	20,600	0	600	30,600	-100	100	11,000	100	-200	11,000	0	-300
Wholesale Trade	5,000	100	100	6,000	0	100	2,000	0	0	1,500	0	-100
Retail Trade	12,600	-100	500	20,500	0	0	7,700	100	-300	8,500	0	-200
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	Data not available			4,100	-100	0	1,300	0	100	1,000	0	0
Information	3,400	100	100	2,200	0	100	1,800	0	0	1,200	0	0
Financial Activities	8,700	0	100	9,300	100	-300	5,400	100	500	2,800	0	100
Professional and Business	12,500	800	700	12,800	400	-100	8,900	100	600	3,900	100	200
Educational and Health	16,800	100	500	16,000	300	100	5,800	0	100	7,600	100	200
Leisure and Hospitality	8,600	200	200	11,200	300	1,000	6,300	300	500	5,500	300	200
Services	4,100	100	0	4,700	0	100	1,600	0	0	1,900	0	0
Government Total	11,600	0	-100	15,300	100	-100	9,600	100	100	13,700	-300	500

## Average Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing

Sector	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr-06 preliminary	Mar-06 revised	Apr-05	Apr-06 preliminary	Mar-06 revised	Apr-05	Apr-06 preliminary	Mar-06 revised	Apr-05
<b>New Hampshire</b>									
All Manufacturing	\$671.97	\$676.37	\$639.16	41.2	41.7	40.3	\$16.31	\$16.22	\$15.86
Durable Goods	\$681.80	\$687.07	\$658.83	41.7	42.1	41.1	\$16.35	\$16.32	\$16.03
Nondurable Goods	\$639.11	\$645.13	\$585.61	39.5	39.5	38.2	\$16.18	\$15.89	\$15.33
<b>Manchester NH MetroNECTA</b>									
All Manufacturing	\$792.52	\$770.95	\$667.13	42.2	42.5	39.9	\$18.78	\$18.14	\$16.72
<b>Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion</b>									
All Manufacturing	\$746.06	\$725.04	\$704.32	43.3	42.4	42.2	\$17.23	\$17.10	\$16.69

Note: Production workers and information for Portsmouth and Rochester are not currently available.

the state prepared for summer vacation and other warm weather operations. April's unadjusted estimates gave testament to that shift with a 5,600-job increase in total nonfarm employment.

Spring's arrival encouraged outdoor activity, and construction (supersector 20) added 2,500 jobs to its payroll as it readies for the season. Professional and business services (supersector 60) increased its force by 1,500, while trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) bolstered the staff with 1,200 positions. Educational and health services (supersector 65) added 300 jobs to its roster, as information (supersector

50) and financial activities (supersector 55) each brought 200 workers into their ranks in April. To a lesser extent, natural resources and mining (supersector 10) and leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) geared up for the summer season as each put more 100 jobs on the rolls.

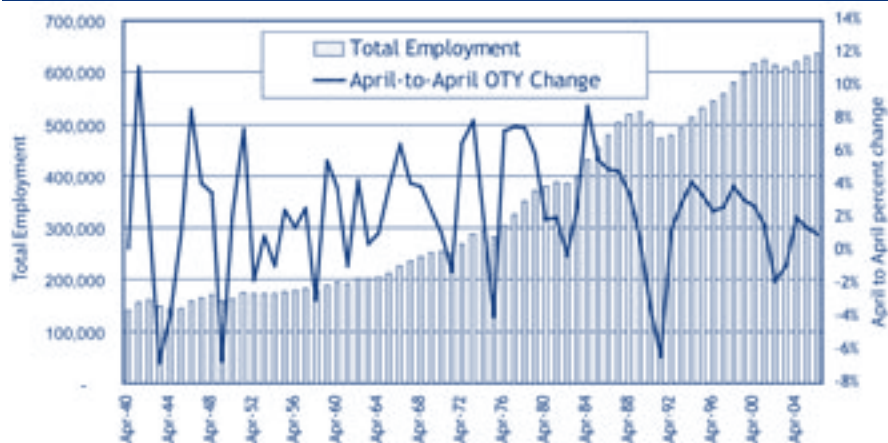
Other services (supersector 80) did not alter its total number of jobs in April's estimates from the March level.

On the down side, government (supersector 90) employment fell by 400 jobs, and manufacturing (supersector 30) trimmed personnel strength by 100.

*B. G. McKay*

Continued from page 7

## Total employment gains have slowed since the 2001 recession



declined by roughly half a percentage point in both 2005 and 2006, shrinking to 1.08 percent by 2006. These growth rates are well below the state median<sup>1</sup> over-the-year growth of 2.50 percent and the average of 2.34 percent per year.

Nonfarm employment estimates represent the number of jobs by place of work. Although CES does not include self-employed, agricultural, or unpaid family jobs, it does count some types of workers not included in employment covered by unemployment insurance, like some commissioned insurance and real estate sales positions, jobs in religious organizations, and work-study jobs held by college students.

*Anita Josten*

<sup>1</sup>Median and mean calculated ranging from April 1940 through April 2006 for New Hampshire using Current Employment Statistics, not seasonally adjusted.

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